

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

EDITED BY JOHN R. RICE

Office 207 South Beckley, Phone 6-6888

An Independent Religious Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Sin, Modernism, and Denominational Overlordship

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With Evansville Rescue Mission

By the Editor

The Evansville Rescue Mission, Evansville, Indiana, has been open for services for 8,400 nights, under the superintendency of Brother Earnest I. Reveal and Mrs. Reveal. It has been open these days, too, caring for the poor, the sick, the distressed, in Jesus' name. Not a night in 23 years has the door been closed at service time! Thousands have been saved, thousands have been given bed, clothes, Testaments, and love and guidance.

In the last year there were 945 professed conversions, 7,133 men and boys were given night's lodging, 186 women and girls were given lodging, and 69 little children. In the one year 1939, 15,016 articles of clothing were given, besides 792 pairs of shoes; 212 pieces of furniture were given to the needy, and 765 families were aided with groceries.

A children's camp is maintained for eight weeks in the summer, where last year in eight weeks 432 children were given a week's vacation each, with Bible teaching and many won to Christ. A day nursery keeps babies while mothers work.

In the splendid large building of the mission at 216 Locust Street, there is the chapel where the usual nightly services are held, Sunday school rooms, laundry, nursery, beds for men in need, and some

prophet's chambers, where the editor stays during this week's visit. Then there is the large auditorium for special speakers, where we are speaking nightly.

Some of the nation's best soul winners and Bible teachers come here. In this ANNUAL APPEAL AND BIBLE CONFERENCE, Dr. Herbert W. Beiber and Dr. Robert G. Lee, of Memphis, Tennessee, preceded me. Next week Dr. Harry Rimmer will come, and after him the following week will come Dr. Walter L. Wilson of Kansas City; then later, Evangelist Anthony Zeoli and, I believe, Mr. Homer Rodeheaver.

This rescue mission is not in the Community Chest, and looks to God for all the heavy needs. Brother Reveal is known widely as a man of prayer, and His God is known more widely as a God who answers prayer, believing prayer, so the needs are met. Not long ago bills were piling up, so Brother Reveal called a day of prayer. Women began to gather for prayer that God would send the money to keep the work going. The mail came as they were gathering, and in it a check for \$500!

A Nurse On Fire, A 5 Year Old Christian, Lost Souls and A Wonderful Saviour

This is Tuesday afternoon, and in the two days and a half I have

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LOVING THE WRONG WORLD

BY C. I. SCOFIELD, D.D.

"Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas greet you" (Col. 4:14).

"There salute thee Epaphras, my fellow-prisoner in Christ Jesus, Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellow-laborers" (Philemon 23 and 24).

"For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica" (II Tim. 4:10).

It is this last passage, the last mention of the man Demas in the Book of God, to which I ask your attention. But we must consider it in the light of the other passages where we find Demas yoked with the very foremost servants of God in arduous service. "Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world." You see how simple this is. Here is one of the early Christians who had started out in the Christian life upon a high level, and with a high ideal. This is proved by the companionship in which we find him. He could have been in no company on this earth more devoted to Jesus Christ than the company of such men as Paul and Mark and Luke. So he went on for years, and was counted by these men, the very foremost servants of God, as a fellow-laborer, one with them in the strife, and they no doubt confidently expected him to be one with them in the reward. Then suddenly, when Paul was in the extremity of his need, when he was Nero's prisoner and about to be slain for his faithfulness, Demas deserted him. The reason for that desertion is disclosed. It was not bodily fear; it was not because the terror of Nero was upon him; it was not because the lions were very near and his courage was unequal to the test. It was because there was, after all, in this man's heart a love for this world. Though he had gone on under the first impulse of his conversion and of his early consecration in the highest type of service, that love of the world was lingering always, and at last it drew him away, and he deserted the service of God and went off to Thessalonica, "having loved this present world."

We are not to suppose for a moment that Demas was an apostate from the faith. What he gave up was service and consecration; and what he did was to descend to a lower level of Christian living; but he got down to about the average, that is all. I want to say with all possible emphasis that we must cease to look upon him as an uncommon sinner. The whole point of warning lies in the fact that he was a very common sinner. Thousands, in other words, start out in

the Christian life with a high ideal of what a Christian ought to be. . . . But sooner or later the pace slackens, service grows languid and intermittent, prayer is neglected, and fellowship with the saints is forsaken, and the life falls to the low level of the average. This is, alas, the usual thing. What is the matter? The world was never cast out of the heart. There never was a clean break with it. That was the difficulty . . .

Now let us look together into this matter, this perilous love of the world which wrecked the service of Demas.

A number of different words in the original are translated in our New Testament by one word, "world," so that we really get a confused idea of what the Holy Spirit means in the different uses of these words. Sometimes, by "world," for instance, is meant this earth—the world of nature, that which God has made here, the creation. Now, is it wrong to love the world of nature? Would God, even, cease to do that? Can we think of it for a moment! . . . The words of the Lord Jesus Christ are full to saturation with the very spirit of natural beauty. His disclosures glow with picture and parable drawn from the world of nature about Him. "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." How often must Jesus have pondered the beauty of the lily in the fields about Nazareth! He lived with nature, He knew nature, He loved nature! . . .

And we may say in a very real sense that most Christian men and women have always loved the world of nature. I think that in all the ages of the church there has been no more Christly man than St. Francis of Assisi, that ardent and simple soul so utterly unspoiled by Rome. How spontaneous his love of nature was! He called the sun his brother, the little birds were his brothers and sisters. He always told his associates, when they were planting their vegetables, that they must "leave a little room for our sisters, the flowers" . . . You will remember how heartily Luther loved the German mountains. Christmas Evans said, "The mountains help me to pray." They helped Jesus before him . . . It is not wrong to love nature. It is Christly and right.

Then again, by the word "world" is meant the people living on the earth. This designation includes the ties of nature and social order. Is it wrong to love the world of humanity? "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Should we withdraw ourselves from human contact, from fellowship with human sorrows and needs? Should we seek to stand aside out of the great tide of human thought and human sympathy and sorrow and human suffering? Why, Jesus flung Himself into the very vortex of it. Oh, no, it is not wrong to love the world of humanity.

But sometimes by "world" is meant this age, this present world system of things; the vast organization of social and economic forces, and even of cosmic forces (for the very forces of nature have been harnessed by it and subjected to it), under the leadership of Satan. This is the bad sense of "world" in Scripture. Jesus said Satan was its prince, and Paul said Satan was its god. It

is in possession here—this "present" world. It hated and crucified Christ. It was the religious part of it that did that, and in the name of God. It is composed of all intelligences, human and natural, apart from God in Christ. It is often brilliant, cultured, agreeable, amiable, fascinating, even religious. In this latter phase its ministers are often transformed as angels of light, but the whole vast system is based upon selfishness.

If you will really look for one moment at the life of the world, at the forces which are at work here, at the basis upon which the system itself is organized, you will see that it is not in the smallest respect nor in the remotest degree organized upon divine principles. Selfishness, not benevolence, rules it. Of course we have benevolent hands stretched out here and there to those whom the world has crushed in its mad rush onward in the pursuit of wealth, ambition and pleasure, and we try to think there is a vast deal of tenderness and right feeling in the world; but if we look a little closer, we discover that by far the greater number of hands are Christian hands. But this world system is organized with consummate skill. Like a lottery, it offers a few prizes—pleasure, power, riches and fame—which are alluring and fascinating; but with the glitter of these it blinds and deludes the wretched millions who can never gain them. That is the world that Demas loved.

Observe, it is this present world. There is, then, another "world."

The word suggests a comparison between this age in which we live and that which is to come. The essential difference between Paul and Demas was that Demas lived for this world, and Paul lived for that.

Notice another word Paul uses: "Having loved this present world." Let me hold your attention upon that word "loved" for a moment. A great many efforts have been

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A Frank Appeal

Not long ago the editor of *The Sword of the Lord* was talking to the editor of a weekly denominational paper, one of the best. Said this Baptist editor, "It would be practically impossible to keep up the circulation of this paper by single subscriptions. The only hope is in clubs from churches, and when churches subscribe for all the membership." Now it is a task to keep up a circulation of thousands of subscribers. For instance, if we were to keep only 7,300 subscribers regularly, there would have to be 20 one-year subscriptions every day in the year, Sunday and every other day. There is the difficulty of getting those to renew who really want the paper, but forget to send a dollar and say they want it continued. Then some die, some feel too poor to pay for the paper.

Yet we know God wants *The Sword of the Lord* to have thousands of subscribers. It is not a dry denominational paper talking about the program. It is evangelistic, winning souls. It has real Bible teaching. It tells of happy conversions and blessed revivals. God has put the evidence of His approval on this little paper. So whatever the difficulties, they are only what would be expected in any real attempt to get out the gospel to others on a big scale.

But to reach the thousands who

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Three Different Tracts Used To Win Souls To Christ

BY THE EDITOR

In Red Wing, Minnesota, a dear woman read the printed sermon by the editor, *There Is No Difference, For All Have Sinned*. She was led to trust Christ and wrote out in beautiful handwriting the following confession of her trust in Christ:

"Dear Brother Rice:

"I confess I am a sinner. I do not deserve salvation. But I am glad that Jesus died for my sins. Here and now I receive Him into my heart. With all my heart I turn away from my sin and turn to Christ. I trust Him to forgive my sins and take Him as my personal Saviour. I will claim Him openly and try to live for Him the rest of my life by His help."

That decision was signed February 27th, 1940. Praise the Lord! From Veedersburg, Indiana, comes a touching letter. Enclosed is a signed decision slip from my little pamphlet, *The Unpardonable Sin*. The dear brother sent along \$1.00 for the tract work, and says:

"Rev. Rice:

"Signing and sending you this from one of your tracts is as near as I can come, to confessing Christ before men, to be saved."

"I happen to be deaf, so can't hear preaching, but I do a lot of Bible study and memorizing. I received your paper, *The Sword of the Lord*, by way of a gift subscription from a sister. Your recent revival in Hammond was attended by both of my sisters; one lives in Hammond."

"Enclosed is \$1.00 for your free tract work . . . Pray for the acceptance of the signed confession." This dear man signs his name.

Not having asked him for permission, I do not print it.

I am glad to say to him that if in his heart he trusts in Christ, his confession is accepted and the Lord Jesus has received him.

Note this interesting fact: this dear man is a reader of *The Sword of the Lord*, and surely the gospel messages week after week helped to open his heart to the truth. Note also that he has a misfortune to be deaf and cannot hear preaching. What a blessing to such people is the printed Word of God and the gospel in print! Help us get the gospel out to every creature with these tracts and with *The Sword of the Lord*.

The above two mentioned souls were won by the booklet on *There Is No Difference, For All Have Sinned*, and the one on *The Unpardonable Sin*. But we have to give first place to the little sixteen page booklet, *What Must I Do To Be Saved?* God is still using it to save multitudes.

From Okemah, Oklahoma, comes a post card, dated February 29th, 1940, and on it is this statement of decision:

"Realizing that I am a sinner and believing that Christ died for my sins, I here and now trust Him to be my personal Saviour, depending on Him to forgive all my sins, change my heart and give me everlasting life. I am glad to confess Him as my Saviour and gladly mail this to let you know."

Then the dear man continues, "Pray for me and my wife."

Let all who read pray for these new-born souls who have put their trust in Christ.

We received another decision slip from the little booklet, *What Must I Do To Be Saved?* dated January 24th, and sent by a man

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Dr. Chas. A. Ohman

of Montrose, Pennsylvania, will speak in both services Sunday at the Galilean Baptist Church, 201 East Tenth Street, Dallas, Texas. The morning subject is **THE NEED OF THE HOUR—HOLY SPIRIT POWER**, and in the evening he will speak on **THE LORDSHIP OF JESUS CHRIST**, a Bible exposition of part of the tenth chapter of Acts.

The new pastor, Dr. Robert J. Wells of Waterloo, Iowa, will be on the field March 17th.

With Evansville Rescue Mission

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been here God has graciously blessed. Sunday afternoon, my first service, I spoke on soul winning; how we are responsible to God for winning those around us. A nurse on night duty at the Walker Hospital became convicted that she should win souls more. That night as she was called from bed to bed, she talked for Jesus. Before she could talk long the light would flash calling her to another bedside. To one troubled woman just recovering from a serious operation, she said, "Are you a Christian?"

The woman started and said, "What makes you ask that?"

The nurse answered that she had gone to services at the Mission that afternoon and the speaker impressed her that she was responsible for the souls about her, so, she said, "I felt I must ask you if you are not a Christian. I want you to be saved."

The troubled woman, a Mrs. McClaren, from across the Ohio River, in Kentucky, answered that she was in great distress, that she felt she must be saved. For two nights she felt that she dared not have the light out. They had prayer together, and the nurse had to go to others, but the Kentucky woman was not saved. Others asked prayer, and the faithful graduate nurse talked to others about Christ.

Morning came, and the nurse called Mrs. Brown, a Christian friend who attends the mission, telling her the room numbers and urging that she get me to come to see four to whom she talked that night. Mrs. Brown came and said to me, "Five years ago tonight I was wonderfully saved. I was a prominent church worker. My church had just sent me as a delegation to a convention, paying all my expenses, and it was hard to admit that I was lost. Brother Anthony Zeoli preached, and I finally trusted Christ. It has been a glorious five years. Now I wish I could do something to help win a soul today, on my spiritual birthday." So together we went to the hospital.

We went to Mrs. McClaren's room. Yes, she wanted us to pray. She was anxious to be saved. At my suggestion she herself prayed earnestly begging God to forgive her sins and give her peace. Then I showed her John 6:37: "... Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." She kept wanting feeling, wanted evidence.

So quietly I said to her, "The devil always wants you to look at yourself, but there is no peace in that. You know you are a sinner, unworthy, condemned. To look inside to the failure and sin of your heart cannot make you happy. Satan tells a so-called moral sinner, 'Don't you see you are all right? You are as good as lots of church members.' Then when the sin grows and gets a greater hold, making a man or woman a slave, the Wicked One says, 'Look at you—you cannot be saved till you do better than that. You are not fit to be a Christian.' Then when one would trust Christ, the devil again wants him to look inside for the proof. 'How do you feel?' asks the Evil One. 'Do you feel you are saved? Do you see enough change? Do you have strength to live right?' That is not right—you will never have peace by looking at yourself. You are not to trust in your feelings, your goodness, your emotions. You are to trust in Jesus. Then look to Him!" I said.

Then I said, "Now, looking at Jesus, not yourself, tell me, did He really die for sinners?" Does God really love sinners?"

"Oh, yes," she assented. She knew it was true.

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

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EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE,
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

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"Did He die for you? Do you think he is really anxious for you to be saved?" I said. Yes, she felt sure He loved her, wanted her.

"Well, keep looking at Jesus, not at your heart, or the way you feel," I said. "Did He invite you to come?" And I held up before her John 6:37. "Look to Him—does He want you? Did He say He would never, not in any wise, no in nowise cast out?"

She assented. Yes, that was what Jesus said; it was bound to be true. So I asked simply, "Then (looking to Him, not to yourself nor your feelings) if you came just now, as we prayed, did He say no, yes? Did He receive you, if He really meant that?"

In a moment she seized Mrs. Brown's hand and mine, and burst into a flood of tears. With sobs shaking her body till we were afraid she would hurt herself after such a recent operation, she praised the Lord and rejoiced for several minutes. When her husband came in, a Christian, a fine young Methodist, his wife called to him, "Oh, I'm saved, Honey, come here, I am saved!"

Then with the husband patting her and all of us glad, she asked me to repeat what I had said before the peace and joy came. And quietly I told again how all our joy and peace and surety are in Christ; not in what we do, but in what He has already done. Not in what we promise Him, but in what He promises us. We are to depend not on how we feel, but on what He said in His Word. He gives joy, but the joy comes after we trust, taking His promises by faith, believing He does what He so faithfully promised to do!

Then she explained how her burden, like a physical pain, was gone. Laying her hand over her chest, she said, "It is all gone! I don't have the load any more!"

Mrs. Brown had helped a lot, and rejoiced with us, then led to another room, where a dear lady was recovering from an appendix operation. The appendix had burst before the operation, and she was very grave in gratitude that she was getting well to rear her child. The nurse had had prayer with her. The dear nurse had been such a comfort when an older daughter had died. So the way was open. And soon we had prayer, and this time, very quietly, she trusted Christ as Saviour. She brushed away the little tear that gathered in her eye, and promised to tell the minister whose church she attends sometimes, that she had trusted Christ and now was saved.

How different the two cases! One was stormy with an agony of doubt, then with many, many tears and praises of thanksgiving, when she trusted and looked to Jesus alone to save. But yet, how much they were alike. Both had been touched by distress and trouble; both were sinners, both were lost, both needed the same Saviour. And in the heart, both did exactly the same thing; they simply trusted Christ to forgive and save. Both got the same kind of salvation, bought and paid for, and will meet in heaven by the same grace.

Crowds, Conversions, Revival

Already God is blessing with a good many souls. Sunday morning after the Sunday school a teacher helped win a girl to Christ who was probably 14 or 15 years old. An elderly man after the afternoon service when I preached on soul winning, came to ask my prayers. I believe that he was truly saved. May God grant it. Sunday night there were 7 professions of faith in Christ, all adults, I think, and last night there were 9 men who came to claim Christ. It was a solemn and impressive time. Some were nicely dressed, others were very poor and had stopped in to get a bed for the night. All together heard the same sermon on Hell and came with the same deep concern, some with tears.

One man of 55 said, as I anxiously questioned each man, making sure that each confessed to God that he was a great sinner, and that he depended on the Saviour alone, "I know I am saved! I've been saved right here tonight! I am 55 years old, and I never made a start before, but I know I am saved!"

One dark-eyed, well dressed, serious young man had a room near by. He went back to his room happy after the service. This morning he was still happy, so he

Blessed Revivals Held By Rev. F. A. Wirth, Petersburg, Illinois

Last year one of the happiest revivals conducted by the editor was with the First Baptist Church of Petersburg, Illinois. The pastor there is Rev. F. A. Wirth. He is on fire for God and God is really using him to win souls. In Sherman, Illinois, a brief series of services resulted in twenty-eight coming forward for Christ in open profession, and services at Virginia, Illinois, resulted in twelve public professions. It is remarkable what a Spirit-filled preacher can do on week nights and Sunday afternoons as Brother Wirth does.

Without Brother Wirth's knowledge, we wish to commend him as a soul winning evangelist. He is true to the Bible, he is filled with the Holy Spirit, he preaches with real fervor, and God blesses with results. He may be addressed:

Rev. F. A. Wirth
Petersburg, Illinois.

I have decided to quote from one of Brother Wirth's recent letters, and I trust he will forgive me on the ground that it is certain to inspire others to win souls.

"The meeting at Sherman closed last Friday, and God gave us twenty-eight souls for our hire. One was a man who had been in prison. One woman who had lived a horrible life was saved from sin. A man who used tobacco fifty years was saved and quit it. God is so good to me and just blesses my unworthy efforts, far beyond my fondest dreams. I spoke here Sunday night in our church and three came forward to trust Christ. One man was about twenty-five, another about twenty-three, and a Catholic woman came and said all her life she had been deceived, and she accepted the dear Lord as her own. Oh, I am so glad He still saves sinners if He is lifted up."

"We started a meeting in a little Baptist Church thirty miles from here last night, and the church was over half full. One girl about sixteen was saved, and an old man held up his hand for prayer. I want you to ask those good business men to put our meeting on their prayer list. This church has been mixed up with Pentecostal people and needs a lot of prayer and hard gospel preaching on the grace of God which does away with the works of sinful men as far as salvation is concerned."

"I heard you speak at Moody's, and my wife said it was the best sermon on Heaven she ever heard. I said, Amen. Only eternity will tell how much good you are doing."

"I had a funeral last week of a

came by to tell Brother Wirth how fine it was to be a Christian!

After the services another young man who was saved waited to tell me, "Do you know why I came tonight? Five years ago my family was all killed in the flood at Louisville, Kentucky. God has cared for me and been good to me, so I felt I must come to Him now."

We have radio services each day, an hour on Sunday, a half-hour each week day. The response has begun by mail, and we expect that a number will be saved who hear the daily messages. Many are asking for the sermons, "What Must I Do To Be Saved," and "Religious But Lost," offered free to listeners.

We will be here through next Sunday, March 10, then to Kankakee, Illinois, with Rev. J. Stuart Hydanus for two weeks, beginning Tuesday.

Pastor Ford Porter has asked me to speak Monday night in a mass meeting at Booneville, where the Baptist Convention forces are trying to take away the church building of Princeton First Baptist Church, because they do not co-operate with the program of the modernists. Let all be warned what denominational headquarters will do to local true Baptist churches if they are given power to do it. Twice in court the convention crowd has been defeated, and let us pray that this time it may be settled that a congregation of Christians is not to be forced to support modernism in order to be called a Baptist church.

Help get 5,000 subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD, 3 months 20c; 6 for \$1.00.

SCRIPTURELESS PREACHING

By A. O. Anderson, Caffee, Missouri

However popular may be the modern style of Scriptureless preaching, it is certain that the first preachers, the inspired preachers, the preachers who turned the world upside down, were Bible preachers. Look at the Apostle Peter's sermon in the second chapter of Acts, Deacon Stephen's sermon in the seventh of Acts, the Apostle Paul's sermon in the thirteenth of Acts, and what are they but Bible readings? Nearly the whole of them consist of quotations from the Old Testament, and they do not contain a hint about talking with the stars, nor concerning the dignity of human nature, nor the progress of Christian civilization.

When Paul was in Thessalonica, he went into the synagogue, and three Sabbath days reasoned with them out of the Scriptures (mark it, out of the Scriptures). Opening and alleging that Christ must need have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is the Christ (Acts 17:2, 3). When the Apostle was in Rome, there came many to him in his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets from morning till evening (Acts 28:23). It would puzzle most modern preachers to find enough about Jesus in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, to occupy them from morning till evening; but Jesus was the theme of the early preachers, and the Scriptures furnished their witness, and arguments, and proofs.

The New Testament is a small book, but it contains more than three hundred quotations from the Old Testament, besides many allusions to the words of holy men of old, who spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. Thus the Holy

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seven months old baby, and led the baby's seventeen year old brother to Christ at home. Then the father trusted Christ at the cemetery amid flowing tears. Oh, how good God is to sinners. Oh, the hope He puts in our hearts. A hitch-hiker about twenty years old asked me for a ride last Thursday and I let him ride. He was such a clean, honest boy, but was unsaved. We stopped the car by the side of the road and he prayed and trusted Christ. Oh, Brother Rice, the marvel of it all that God would let a poor ignorant, unlearned man like me be a soul winner. I want to so live so He can trust me with more power.

"Remember this poor, unworthy servant of God in your prayer, and if God wants me, I would love to be the soul winner Moody was, just for the glory of God and that the poor lost souls He would let me win might glorify Him. I love my Lord and want to serve Him better."

"I must close, Brother Rice, and study. I need to know more of His Word. Souls are dying. God help us by some means to win many."

"Your brother in Christ,
(Signed) "F. A. Wirth."

AN INCIDENT OF THE CIVIL WAR

BY D. L. MOODY

After the battle of Murfreesboro, in the Civil War, I was stationed in the hospital. For two nights I had been unable to get any rest, and being really worn out, on the third night I had lain down to sleep. About midnight I was called to see a wounded soldier who was very low. At first I tried to put the messenger off, but he told me that if I waited it might be too late in the morning. I went to the ward where I had been directed, and found the man who had sent for me. I shall never forget his face as I saw it that night in the dim, uncertain candlelight. I asked what I could do for him, and he said that he wanted me to "help him die." I told him I would bear him in my arms into the Kingdom of God if I could, but I couldn't and then I tried to preach the Gospel.

He only shook his head and said, "He can't save me; I have sinned all my life."

My thoughts went back to his loved ones in the North, and I thought that even then his mother might be praying for her boy. I repeated promise after promise, and prayed with the dying man, but nothing I said seemed to help him. Then I said that I wanted to read him an account of an interview which Christ had one night while here on earth with a man who was anxious about his eternal welfare, and I read the third chapter of John, how Nicodemus came to the Master. As I read on, his eyes became riveted upon me, and he seemed to drink in every syllable. When I came to the words, "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life," he stopped me and asked, "Is that there?"

"Yes," I said.

"Well," he said, "I never knew that was in the Bible. Read it again."

Leaning his elbows on the side of the cot he brought his hands together in a firm grasp, and when I finished he exclaimed, "That's good. Won't you read it again?"

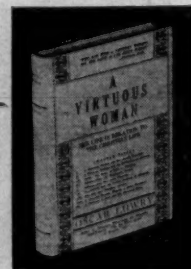
Slowly I repeated the passage the third time. When I finished I saw that his eyes were closed, and the troubled expression on his face had given way to a peaceful smile. His lips moved, and I bent over him to catch what he was saying, and heard in a faint whisper, "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but should have eternal life."

He opened his eyes and said, "That's enough; don't read any more."

Early next morning I again came to his cot, but it was empty. The attendant in charge told me the young man had died peacefully, and said that after my visit he had rested quietly, repeating to himself, now and then, that glorious proclamation: "Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."

A Virtuous Woman

BY OSCAR LOWRY



A Scriptural study of sex life in relation to the Christian life. Though the author does not hesitate to speak freely about the matters not often discussed in public by ministers, yet he does so with a fine sense of propriety and with a deep sincerity and earnestness which lift the presentation above any suggestiveness. The chapter on "Safeguarding the Daughter's Virtue" and the one on "Safeguarding the Son's Chastity" are perhaps the most forceful.

First edition of 3,000 sold within four weeks after publication. Second edition of 5,000 sold within six months after publication. Now this book is in its fifth printing. 160 pages. Price.....\$1.00

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A Frank Appeal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

need this message, your help is needed. We want 5,000 people to be put on the roll as trial subscribers. We offer to do the extra work and take the trial subscriptions at the low rate of 20 cents for 13 weeks (three full months), or six of these trial subscriptions for \$1.00. The editor is doing all he can. We have put over \$3,000 cash on the printing bills of the little paper. Not a penny of profit have we ever taken from it, not a penny of remuneration for the hard hours of work each week. We have even paid the workers ourselves, from offerings that come to the editor from other sources, much of the time. And we are as happy about it as can be, and are going to continue the same way. The affairs of the paper are in fine shape, God is blessing, and we are nearly up on the printing bill. But we cannot get the 5,000 trial sub-

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The editor writes this appeal between speaking three times a day. He has just come from a blessed service. Twenty have professed faith in Christ in these last two days. Now don't you think you should help carry this load, help get others to read these messages, help get others saved?

Next week, God willing, we will report about subscriptions. Will you not do your part now, because you love God, because you love the paper, and because you know He will repay?

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We have 4,000 names and addresses of good Christian workers, to whom we want to send sample copies of *The Sword of the Lord*. It will cost about \$120.00 to send these samples. Do you want to help?

**Scriptureless
Preaching**

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

Ghost Himself has intimated in no uncertain way His approval of Biblical preaching, and it possesses advantages which the commonest mind can readily perceive. First, the preacher can speak with authority because he is delivering a message for God. Second, he knows he is right, and, therefore, can be bold as a lion. Third, he cannot mislead sinners, for he tells them just what his Master has revealed. Fourth, he builds up Christians under his ministry into an intelligent, robust people who will not listen to the voice of the false charmer, charm they never so wisely. Fifth, he is free from the worry that almost invariably attends the preaching of fine sermons, for having faithfully and prayerfully spoken what God has told him to say, he leaves the results with Him to whom they belong. Sixth, if his hearers do not like his teachings, he can quietly inform them that their controversy is not with him, but with the Lord. Seventh, he will certainly make a better appearance at the judgment seat of Christ than those who were sent as His Ambassadors, but failed to obey their instructions.

Make it thy highest joy to wait on Him continually. As it was a joy for Him to have Mary at His feet, so it will be a joy to Him to have thee continually at His feet. The world is too busy to hearken unto Him. Many who call themselves Christian workers are occupied with things of no account, and they think they cannot take time to sit at His feet. Those who learn to wait continually at His feet, will be a delight to His heart. As they draw nigh to Him, He will indeed draw nigh to them and will reveal Himself. He will reveal His perfect way. He will reveal hidden things, deep things. He will so empower those who wait on Him that they shall be strong and shall go forth to do exploits in His name.

For in the hours of waiting on Him they receive a meat which the world knows not. To them comes the revelation of His good, acceptable, and perfect will; to them comes the heavenly transformation as they partake of the nature of the Christ, of His meekness, of His lowliness, of His strength, His life, His power.

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A WORD ABOUT FINLAND

We are indebted to Dr. David Otis Fuller, Pastor of Wealthy Street Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan, for his little church paper that comes weekly to our desk. In a recent issue is an interesting article about Finland, by Claude A. Ries. We give a part of the article:

"Did you know that this past fall a wonderful revival swept Finland, especially among the young people?"

"Did you know that when the three kings of Sweden, Denmark and Norway, and President of Finland met in Stockholm recently to discuss the present European War, all attended a service of worship and prayer while the massed crowd outside sang that great hymn of Luther's, 'A Mighty Fortress Is Our God'?"

"Did you know that the Finnish army differs from most armies in the fact that it is completely 'dry' with prohibition of alcoholic beverages beginning the moment one enters the war zone? Herds of cows are kept not far behind the lines from which the 'ski cavalry' has been going out on their risky but effective missions."

"Did you know that the Finns spent the last hour of the old year upon their knees consecrating their lives to God and imploring His aid, while millions of Americans were planning to spend twenty million dollars making 'whoopie,' as the radio announcers reported?"

Can we not pray for these hard-pressed, heroic people as they battle against such tremendous odds with a God-denying, blaspheming foe?—*Faith Baptist Church Paper, Wichita, Kansas*

Loving the Wrong World

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

made to draw a dividing line between worldliness and spirituality upon the basis of things—defining some things as worldly and others as unworldly—but they have never succeeded. The line cannot be drawn there. The man who rides in a phaeton is very apt to think that the man who rides in a coupe is worldly; and the man who walks is apt to think that the man who rides in a phaeton is worldly. But this is a sliding scale which can never give an absolute standard. Then the effort has been made to reduce life to the condition of absolute necessity, which is the utilitarian view. This has invariably failed. Why? Because God is against it. God did not try to do without flowers, nor did He make them all black. We are something more than body. We have other needs than food, and shelter from the inclement weather. This is the least and lowest part of man. He has a spirit and a soul. The mind and the heart have needs as imperative as those of the body. Suffice it to say that the line can never be drawn upon the basis of things. . . . There may be just as much worldliness under a sun-bonnet as under a crown; and cleanly and beautiful surroundings may go with sweetest humility. . . .

I wish still to hold your minds for a moment to that word "loved."

"Having loved this present world." Did you ever notice what John gives as the contents of the world in this bad sense of the word? He says, "All that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of

the eyes, and the pride (or ostentation) of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." Now what does this "lust" mean? It is over-desire, love and eager pursuit of things for the mere gratification of the body, of the eye, and of the love of ostentation—display. . . . The fixing of the heart upon these things, so that they become the real object of life.

Does not this give us an easy test? What, upon the whole, are you living for? The present or the future? It is a very simple matter. For instance, you have a thousand dollars to invest. You do not require it for any legitimate need, either physical or intellectual. Do you naturally try to make some more things out of it? Or do you invest it in heavenly securities? If you had it, would you support a missionary with it, use it for the present needs of humanity, or buy a corner lot with it? We are entitled to use what is really needed for the best development of life here and now. The test falls upon what is more than this. All surplusage is detrimental to the real life.

Now, Demas felt for a time the power of unseen things; then he went back to the things which are seen. In this he was a type of the majority of us. Let us be humble enough to say that. The fact about us is that most of us lead divided lives: sometimes we are fellow-laborers with Paul, and sometimes we go away from him to Thessalonica. That is the fact about it.

But is this all? Are we left here in the midst of these things seen, with mere pious precepts about them, but with no power of victory over them? Not so. The Scripture points out the secret of victory as clearly as it points out the offense and the peril. Will you try to hold in your minds three things in which victory over the love of this present evil world is to be found?

First, *keep the distinctions clear.* Remember that worldliness is not in things, but in the love of things. Do not confuse beauty, refinement and culture with worldliness. They are as far apart as right from wrong, as nobility from baseness. So do not try to be hating something which God is not asking you to hate nor seeking to help you to hate.

Second, *keep your conscience exercised toward God.* There is among us so much exercise of conscience toward each other. We are thinking of the opinion of this one or that one. Keep a conscience exercised toward God. The love of mere luxury and ostentation creeps in insidiously when we are not walking with God, and we persuade ourselves that we need them and that our desire for them is innocent and right and pleasing to God. But when we are walking in the white light, we do not need to be afraid of our blessings. We can "use the world as not abusing it."

Lastly, *the love of the world, which is the desire for things, beyond their power to minister to our best good, can never be overcome by effort, but only by faith.* "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. How does faith overcome the world? Faith makes unseen things real. Faith, when full of the vigor which comes from unclouded communion with the Father and Son, keeps before us the actuality of the things toward which we are going. It makes unseen things real, and we remember that gold is used in the new Jerusalem just for building and paving material; and when perhaps we are feeling a desire for some insignificant pearl in a jeweler's window, faith reminds us that the gates of that city are each one entire and perfect pearl, and that the very foundations are precious stones. So walking by faith we keep the right proportions between the little things of the passing moment, and the great eternal verities, and the hold of these seen things is loosened and we are able to do with them or without them. We are able to walk free of them. Our hearts are not entangled with them, and we are always thinking of those things which are above where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God; and we are neither oppressed by the possession of things nor depressed by the deprivation of them. "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."

(Reprinted by permission from *The Dallas News* of October, 1905.)

3 Different Tracts Used to Win Souls

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

who lives on North 34th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This friend had written me before. Notice these words from his letter which accompanied the signed decision slip:

"Dear Brother Rice:

"I thank you for the advice that you gave me about the Seventh Day Adventists. I have joined the Wisconsin tabernacle. They teach the old-time religion. I also read the booklet, *What Must I Do To Be Saved?* So dear Brother Rice, I took Jesus as my Saviour. I will trust in Him always. I have one bad habit. Is it wrong to chew tobacco? I have had this habit for forty years. I have been trying to quit it but it is awfully hard. Will you pray for me that I will overcome this habit?"

"Yours until Jesus comes, (Signed) "A—M—"

I do not print the name nor the street number, though both were given.

Another decision slip came from North Shore Drive, South Haven, Michigan, signed February 11th from the booklet, *What Must I Do To Be Saved?*

Another decision came from Michigan City, Indiana, dated February 16th, and the decision slip was properly signed, and the post office box number was given. The decision slip was from the booklet, *What Must I Do To Be Saved?*

On February 13th a decision slip was signed by a man and his wife at Monon, Indiana. A lovely letter accompanied the decision slip. The dear man sixty-three years old, his wife fifty-nine years old had, neither of them, ever been members of a church. Now they live out in the country, and are not able to get to church, and the wife has been disabled and a shut-in for six years. Our brother said:

"This is the first letter I have written in fifteen years, and I am so happy to think with the help of the Lord, I am sending it to you. I have heard you from — (Chicago, I think). Wife and I have some of your pamphlets. They have been a great blessing to me and my wife. You see, Brother Rice, I am sixty-three years old and my dear wife is fifty-nine years old. We live in the country and are not able to go to church as my

wife has been disabled and a shut-in for six years, and I am broken in health and not able to work. We live with our boys as we have two boys at home and one girl. We have eight children, five are married, and one has gone to be with the Lord, and that leaves two boys single at home. Now, Brother Rice, we try to live happy at home. I read my Bible every day and mother and I pray to the Lord to help us and we have surely been blessed, and I am so happy to let you know how we feel about it. I am signing this leaflet and sending it to you.

"Now, Brother Rice, I have a word to ask you. I have used tobacco all my life, and I want you to answer what you think, and I will do as you say. Will this tobacco keep me from being saved? Now please answer and pray for me as my race is almost run and I hope I can go out with a clear title. I never belonged to church, but I have always wanted to belong to the Lord. So please help me. . . ."

We are sending *The Sword of the Lord* complimentary to this couple. Any one who wants to help pay for it may do so.

Of course I have written the dear brother that his salvation is already settled when he trusted Christ, but that if he did things displeasing to God, like the use of tobacco, it would grieve the Spirit, and he would not be as happy and useful as he likely otherwise would be. Let us pray that God will bless this dear couple who are claiming the Saviour this late in life.

We would like to furnish free these booklets to all who want them. Please write to John R. Rice, 201 East Tenth Street, Dallas, Texas, and tell me how many you want to use with your friends very carefully. As God provides the means, they will be sent. If you want to buy them, you may have *What Must I Do To Be Saved?* at 1c apiece in any quantity, or the other two, *There Is No Difference*, *For All Have Sinned* and *The Unpardonable Sin*, at about 2c a copy in any quantity. And let us pray that God will save multitudes of other souls through the gospel messages in *The Sword of the Lord* and through these booklets.

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